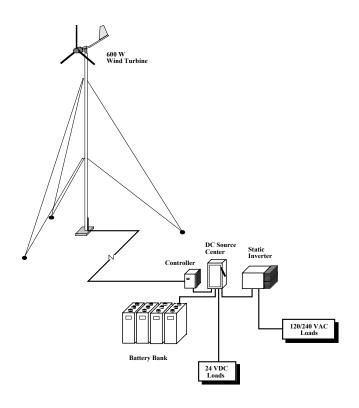


# DC-Bus Hybrid Power Systems

**Small Wind Systems Tutorial Village Power Conference Workshop** 

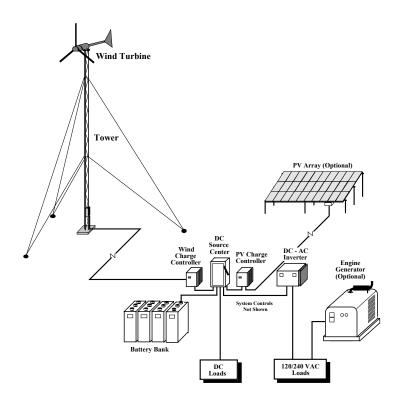


# **Battery and Hybrid Systems**



#### **Wind Home Systems**

- Micro-Turbines: 60 800 Watts
- Both DC and AC Systems
- >150,000 Systems in China



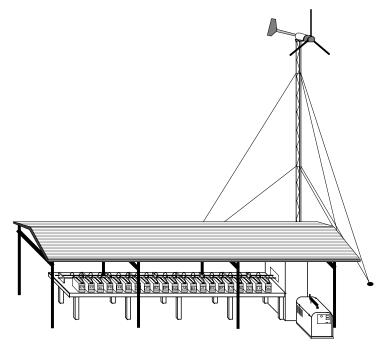
#### **Hybrid Power Systems**

- · Larger Capacity: 1 100 kW
- For Villages and Telecommunications
- 24 HR Power with <10% Diesel Run Time



# **Battery Charging Stations**

- Carting Batteries to Town for Charging is a Common Practice in Developing Countries
- Offering Wind/Diesel Powered Battery Charging Services at the Village Appears to be Very Cost Effective
- Cost Of Service, Including Lights and Battery Delivery Service, Ranges From \$2.50 - \$5.00 Per Month
- Profitable Public or Private Sector Electrification, Even Serving The Very Poor, Is Possible With This Technology





#### **Diesel Liabilities**

- Systems Operate Inefficiently Due To Low Load Factors
- Power Is Not Available 24 Hours ... Limits Economic Development (e.g., Daytime Productive Uses) and Some Valuable Applications (e.g., Refrigeration)
- Manual Controls and Dispatch High Labor Costs
- Major Overhauls And Extended Downtime Are Common ... Total Abandonment Of Equipment Not Uncommon
- Continuing Headache of Fuel Supply
- Governments Often Have Goal Of Reducing Fuel Use And Expenditures







# **Hybrid Systems**

Wind Turbines and Diesels are Complimentary:

Characteristic	<u>Wind</u>	<u>Diesel</u>
Capital Cost	High	Low
Operating Cost	Low	High
Maintenance Requirements	Low	High
Available On-Demand	No	Yes

Together, They Provide a More Reliable and Cost-Effective Power System Than is Possible With Either Wind or Diesel Alone

Wind And Solar Often Have Seasonally Complimentary Resources

• Summer: Low Wind / High Solar

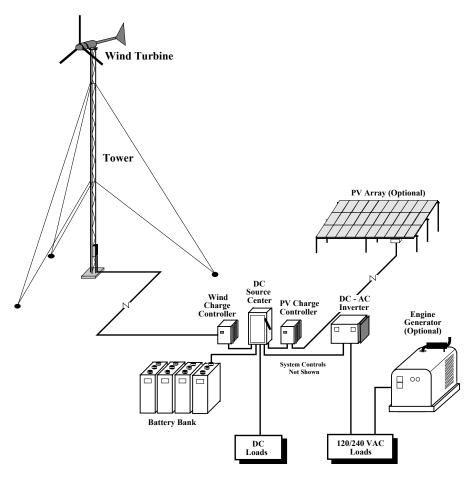
Winter: High Wind / Low Solar



# Hybrid Systems

#### The New Way to Electrify Villages

- One or More Variable Speed Wind Turbines; Optional Solar
- DC Bus Architecture
- Lead-Acid Batteries, Flooded Type
- Sinewave Static Inverters for DC-AC Conversion
- Back-up Diesel Generator for Low Wind Periods
- Renewables Typically Supply 60 - 85% of Energy
- Provides 24 Hr / Day Power with Diesel Run Times Reduced to ~10%





## **Advantages of Hybrid Power Systems**

- Provide Dependable, Utility-Grade 24
   Hour AC or DC Power
- Not Dependent On Single Source Of Energy
- Flexible, Expandable, Able To Meet Changing Loads
- Simple, Quick, Low Cost Installation
- Low Operating Costs (O&M and Diesel Fuel)
- Simple Operation, Low Maintenance & Service Requirements
- User Not Required To Operate, Maintain, or Repair
- Lower Life-Cycle Cost Of Electricity For Remote Applications



## Disadvantages of Hybrid Power Systems

- High Capital Cost Compared To Diesel Generators
- Diesel And Hybrids Have Very Different Cost Components
- More Complex Than Stand-Alone Power Systems ... Requires Battery Storage And Power Conditioning
- Not Yet In Full Commercial (High Volume) Production ... Few Suppliers





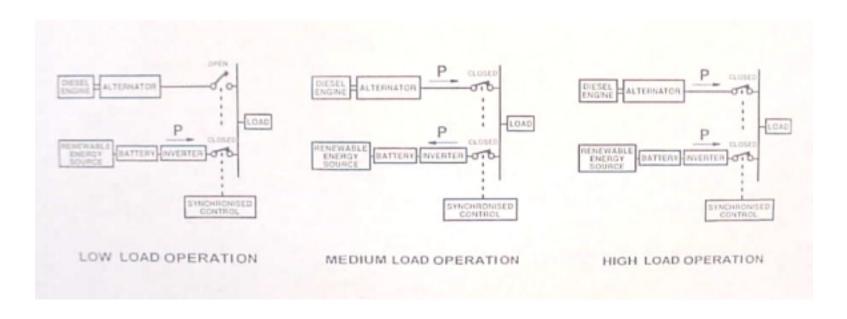
# **Hybrid System Configurations**

- Very Small Systems (< 2 kWp Total) Usually Do Not Use Back-up Generators And Have Relatively Larger Battery Banks (And Usually Solar Modules)
- Larger Systems Usually Are Hybrid Systems With A Diesel Generator (And Sometimes Solar Modules)
- New System Architectures: Rotary Converters And "AC Bus" Systems Are Emerging for Larger Systems





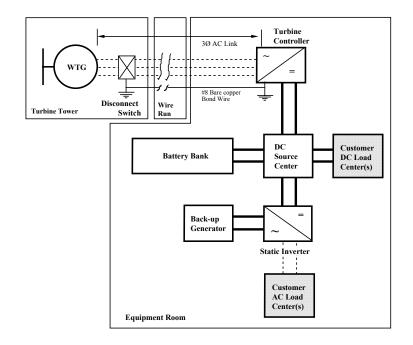
## **Advanced Inverter Systems**



- Bi-Directional Inverters, Which Include Battery Charging and Load Transfer Capabilities, Allow Back-up Diesels to be Used Efficiently
- Paralleling Capabilities Can, In Theory, Allow Smaller Inverters and Diesels



## **DC Bus Architecture**



Battery String

6 x 10 kW Wind Turbine
(6 x 8 kW derated)

Battery String

400 kWh Total

50 kW Inverter /
Charger

100 kVA Diesel
Generator
Load Center

**Single Turbine** 

**Multiple Turbines** 



#### **Static Inverters**

- Inverter Is Often the Critical Component
- Inverter Technology Has Improved Greatly in Last 5 Years ... Reliability is Now Quite Good
- Features: Charging, Low Battery Cut Off, Diesel Synchronization (Load Sharing)
- Small Units Still Mostly Modified Square Wave Output ... Okay, But Can Cause Noise in Light Ballast's and in Communications Equipment



- Units Above 3 kW Now Mostly Sinewave Output; THD < 5%</li>
- Efficiencies Run 80-94%; Average is ~90%
- Costs are Typically \$0.60-1.00/W
- 50 kW+, 3Ø Units Now Common
- For Village Power, Leading Suppliers are Trace Engineering (U.S.) and Advanced Energy Systems (Australia)



#### **Batteries I**

- Flooded Lead-Acid Batteries
   Still the Technology of Choice
- Deep-Cycle Batteries Required

   Vehicle Starting Batteries Last

   Only 1-2 Years in Deep Cycle

   Service
- Sealed Batteries Cost ~50%
   More ... Too Expensive for
   Most Village Power Situations
- Typical Efficiency is ~75%,
   But Only 40-70% of Generation
   Goes to Storage Batteries Only
   Take Net Power After Load



- Battery Costs are Typically \$55 150/kWh
- Best Costs on Smaller Systems Achieved in Using High-Volume Golf-Cart Batteries (eg., Trojan T-105: ~\$45/kWh)



#### **Batteries II**

- Batteries Should Not be Discharged Below 80% ... Usable Capacity is ~80% of Total Capacity
- Batteries Should be Equalized Approximately Monthly
- Batteries are Connected in Series to Build Voltage and in Parallel to Build Capacity
- Batteries Can be Paralleled Up to 5 Strings Without Problems
- Battery Strings Should be Fused or Breakered to Protect for Short Circuits
- Battery Acid Is a Serious Health Hazard
- Hydrogen Gas is Generated, Particularly During Equalization
- The Variable Nature of Battery Charging with Wind Power Seems to Have a Positive Effect of Operating Life



#### **DC Source Centers**

- DC Source Centers Eliminate the Bad Practice of Attaching Sources and Loads Directly to the Battery Terminals
- Common Connection Point for All DC Sources, Loads, and Storage
- Incorporates Fuses or Circuit Breakers for Major Components ... Providing Short Circuit Protection
- Often Constructed Around Multi-pole Switch, Providing Main System Disconnect
- Usually the Inverter is the Primary Load
- Costs are \$400 (1 kW) \$1,800 (20 kW),
   Costs Primarily Determined by Current Levels
- Some Suppliers Offer Nice Power Metering Package Options
- DC Bus Provides Easy Method for Paralleling Multiple Wind Turbines and/or PV Arrays





#### **Controls**

- Typical Hybrid System Control Functions:
  - Battery Overvoltage ... Wind & PV Regulators
  - Battery Undervoltage (Load Shedding)
     ... Inverter
  - Battery Equalization ... Wind & PV Regulators
  - Back-up Generator Start / Stop ...
     Inverter or DC Source Center
- Centralized Controller Which Monitors All Sources and Loads is Not Necessary
- Most Controls Triggered by DC Bus Voltage (Battery Bank Voltage)
- State-of-Charge Monitors or Energy Counting (e.g., Net Ampere-Hours)
   Controls Don't Work as Well
- Some People Prefer to have Manual Backup Power, Controlled by Local Operator



